

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 04005 020725Z

11  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
----- 097479

O 020708Z AUG 76  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8691  
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T AMMAN 4005

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, IR, JO, US  
SUBJECT: JORDAN AIR DEFENSE

REF: (A) TEHRAN 7730, (B) AMMAN 3895 (NOTAL)

1. IN CONNECTION WITH REFTEL A, WE HAVE REVIEWED CONVERSATIONS HERE WITH IRANIAN AMBASSADOR. BEST RECOLLECTION AT THIS POINT IS THAT IRANIAN AMBASSADOR IS AWARE OF THE FACT BOTH THAT (A) SAUDIS HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY FORTHCOMING ON AIR DEFENSE AND THAT (B) GIVEN THE HIGH PRIORITY ATTACHED TO THE PROJECT BY JORDAN, IRAN AND US, THIS EMBASSY HAS RECOMMENDED TO WASHINGTON RESERVING CURRENTLY AVAILABLE US FOREIGN AID FUNDS (BUDGET SUPPORT) SHOULD THEY BE REQUIRED TO HELP BREAK FUNDING DEADLOCK.

2. IN ADDITION, IRANIAN AMBASSADOR HERE MAY BE AWARE OF FURTHER DETAILS FROM JORDANIANS. AS REPORTED REFTEL B, I TOLD KING IN PRESENCE JORDANIAN PRIME MINISTE THAT MY RECOMMENDATION TO WASHINGTON HAD BEEN TO HOLD OFF COMMITTING BUDGET SUPPORT FUNDS AT LEAST UNTIL IT WAS CLEAR THAT SAUDI COMMITMENT TO AIR DEFENSE PROGRAM COULD BE WORKED OUT WITHOUT THE REQUIREMENT FOR THEIR USE FOR THAT PROGRAM.

3. GIVEN RECENT SAUDI CONVERSATIONS WITH AMBASSADOR  
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PORTER, IT SEEMS FROM HERE LESS AND LESS LIKELY THAT

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FUNDS WOULD HAVE TO BE USED IN SUCH A FASHION. HOWEVER, GIVEN UPS AND DOWNS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON THIS DEAL, WE PRESUME THAT ANY FINAL DECISION WOULD BE PREMATURE. GIVEN KING HUSSEIN'S CURRENT STRONG INTEREST IN MAXIMIZING BUDGET SUPPORT BECAUSE OF A SLOW DOWN IN ARAB FUNDS TO JORDAN, IT WOULD SEEM TO US TO BE EQUALLY PREMATURE FOR IRANIANS TO TAKE AN INITIATIVE OF THE SORT DESCRIBED IN AMBASSADOR HELMS TELEGRAM. FROM THIS VANTAGE, KING'S STRONG PREFERENCE WOULD BE FOR US TO WORK OUT ARRANGEMENTS WITH SAUDIS TO FUND AIR DEFENSE IN ITS ENTIRETY WITHOUT USE OF US FOREIGN AID FUNDS AND PERMIT JORDAN TO PUT TO USE SUCH FUNDS TO A MAXIMUM EXTENT POSSIBLE TO MEET ITS CURRENT BUDGET PROBLEMS.

4. AS SEEN FROM HERE, SHAH'S ALREADY EXTENSIVE SUPPORT FOR KING HUSSEIN HAS DONE MUCH TO HELP RESOLVE THE ISSUE OF SAUDI FUNDING AND FROM RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH HUSSEIN, HE APPEARS TO BE DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR SUCH SUPPORT.  
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR DEFENSE, MILITARY ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 02 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** SmithRJ  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** MASS, PFOR, IR, JO, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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